

**Maricopa County Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
Environmental Services
1001 North Central Avenue, 5th Fl Conference Room
Phoenix, Arizona 85004
3:00 p.m.
April 28, 2003**

Members Present:

Audrey Adamic
William C. Brainard, M.D.
Don Cassano
Steven G. Nelson, M.D.
Brian F. Spicker
Patrick Van Zanen
Stephen West, M.D.
Pam Wight
Maricopa County Supervisor Max Wilson, District 4

Member Excused:

Susanne Cook

Ex Officio: Jonathan B. Weisbuch, M.D., M.P.H.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. Seven members were present and one member was excused.

ACTION ITEMS:

Approval of the March 24, 2003 Board of Health Meeting Minutes:

The motion to approve the March 24, 2003 Board of Health Meeting minutes as presented was made by Dr. Brainard with Supervisor Wilson seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously by seven votes.

Fee Waivers:

Ms. Minichiello, Program Manager, Environmental Services, offered to answer questions regarding the fee waivers presented today for approval.

A motion was made by Mr. Cassano to approve the fee waiver requests by Glendale Lamar, Glendale Octillo; Buckeye Head Start; Head Start West Valley Child Crisis; Avondale/Brinkler; and the Buckeye Food Bank, with Ms. Adamic seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously by eight votes.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

First Annual Public Health Fair:

Dr. Weisbuch, Director, Department of Public Health, said the First Annual Public Health Fair held two weeks ago in the parking lot at 1845 East Roosevelt Street was a huge success. Each program had the opportunity to participate and exhibit highlights related to their program. The creativity and spontaneity provided by the staff was a delight to witness. The fair offered the opportunity to meet staff members from other locations in addition to highlighting the services provided by each program.

West Nile Virus Update:

Mr. Brown, Director, Environmental Services, explained that several individuals were present today to give the Board of Health members an update on the West Nile Virus. Mr. Townsend, Manager, Vector Control Program, Environmental Services, will give a powerpoint presentation explaining the history and treatment of the West Nile Virus. Mr. Power, Water and Waste Management Division Manager, Environmental Services, and Mr. Levy, Program Manager, Vector Borne and Zoonotic Diseases, Arizona Department of Health Services, are also available to answer questions from the Board of Health members. Environmental Services has recently reallocated resources to provide funding, if necessary, to handle the West Nile Virus.

Mr. Townsend explained education, surveillance, and treatment, are the three major areas of concern when dealing with the West Nile Virus. The virus has spread throughout the United States since 1999. Environmental Services is using pamphlets, brochures, flyers, web pages, videos, local radio, television coverage, and newspapers, to alert the community on what to look for and how to treat the virus. Mosquitoes spread this virus. Favorite breeding spots are culverts, flood irrigation ditches, unkept swimming pools, and dense wetlands.

Carbon dioxide traps are a successful resource used to deter mosquitoes. Dealing with the mosquito larvae rather than adult mosquitoes is a successful and inexpensive method of reducing the mosquito population. Spraying mineral oil over the top of the water source is another approach to reduce the mosquito population. The best method to control the adult mosquito is to spray or fog with insecticide at night when the mosquitoes are active. Mosquito fish are provided to the public by Environmental Services. The fish quickly multiply and eat the mosquito larvae reducing the population of mosquitoes. Water areas on golf courses are not conducive for mosquito breeding; mosquitoes prefer to breed in areas of water surrounded by vegetation.

Mr. Townsend demonstrated how easy it is to use an official Bird Collection Box. The standard box has a styrofoam liner which holds the bird. Blue ice is to be used during shipping. You fill out the accompanying form with as much information as possible before sending the box to the lab. The lab will perform

testing on the kidney and brain of the bird to determine the cause of death. Funding is available to test approximately 1,000 birds each year.

Mr. Townsend stressed that the message to the community is not to panic but to contact the Environmental Services complaint line to report dead birds. A detailed questionnaire provided by the Complaint Hotline will screen the bird to determine if it should be analyzed. Last August Environmental Services handled over 1,000 complaint calls associated with the West Nile Virus. Aerial spraying is a consideration if cases of WNV become widespread.

Ms. Santana, Director, Epidemiology/Vital Registration, Department of Public Health, said Maricopa County had two positive cases of West Nile Virus last year. Both cases involved exposure elsewhere. Ms. Santana distributed a copy of the Department of Public Health's response plan to the West Nile Virus.

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome:

Ms. Santana, Director, Epidemiology/Vital Registration, Department of Public Health, has received 32 reports of SARS with two reports which fit the probable case definition. One report was quickly ruled out and the other report is still in the probable category. There has not been a fatality related to SARS in the United States. The condition does not seem to spread as rapidly in the United States. The United States has had additional time to deal with the condition and have their infection control practices in place. The most recent ratios, which change daily, report 321 deaths related to SARS or 6.3% per 1,000 death rate. The Asian markets have suffered and there is some panic and sensationalism from the press regarding the publicity of SARS. SARS is still under development and evolving with a diagnosis of exclusion.

Update on HIV Issues and Services:

Mr. Paquette, Director, HIV/HVC, Department of Public Health, gave a presentation on the unique issues and services provided by Maricopa County to the community. Most data provided today is one to one and a half years old because of the delay in assembling the data. 66% of the population affected with HIV are Caucasians. African Americans represent 11% of the HIV population and 18% are Hispanics. Less than 1% of the population of the United States has the virus. Of the 1% only a third of the individuals affected know they are positive and receive treatment for the disease. Maricopa County has a lower than average ratio at 10.32 for Eligible Metropolitan Areas with more than 500,000 population compared to 18.3 for other areas.

Last year the Department of Public Health, through a special grant to Ryan White, presented a training session providing information on the relationship between those infected with HIV and Hepatitis C. Maricopa County is the first and only area of the United States currently using the OraQuick method of testing for HIV. The OraQuick method provides results in twenty minutes without a blood test. Dr. Weisbuch congratulated Mr. Paquette and his outstanding team

for their dedication in acquiring grant funding for HIV services. The last funding cycle received a \$500,000 increase over the previous cycle.

Mr. Paquette said documentation of care for services to the HIV participants helps secure long term funding. Implementation of a quality management program and selection of this quality program for presentation at the annual HRSA meeting in Washington, DC has also contributed to the success of Mr. Paquette.

Ms. Braham, Manager, HIV Prevention and Education Program, Department of Public Health, explained how through education and skill building programs individuals receive training on negotiations, abstinence, and how to handle difficult circumstances. Training is provided in the correctional setting because these individuals are recognized as risk takers.

CURRENT EVENTS SUMMARY:

No response.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

No one was present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next Board of Health meeting is Monday, May 19, 2003.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Pam Wight, President

Jonathan B. Weisbuch, M.D., Secretary

The minutes were transcribed and edited by Susan Attiah.